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Attorney Docket No. C-6-2

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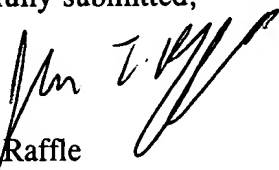
Applicant has attached a copy of a page from Dorland's Medical Dictionary, 28<sup>th</sup> Edition. In particular, Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to the definition of muscle. Muscles are of two varieties: (1) striated, or striped, including all the muscles in which contraction is voluntary and the heart muscle; and (2) unstriated, nonstriated, **smooth**, or organic, including all the involuntary muscles except the heart, such as the muscular layer of the intestines, bladder, **blood vessels**, etc. In light of this definition (and the entirety of the

Bales disclosure) Applicant believes that the phrase "smooth muscle coring" is specifically intended to cover coring through a stenotic area in a blood vessel to create a lumen. In fact, Applicant believes that by using the phrase "smooth muscle coring", the Bales reference clearly intends to exclude striped muscles, such as the heart.

In light of the above, Applicant believes that the Bales reference to "smooth muscle coring" does not anticipate or render obvious the pending claims of this application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (408) 736-0224.

Respectfully submitted,



John T. Raffle  
Reg. No. 38,585

ArthroCare Corporation  
595 N. Pastoria Ave.  
Sunnyvale, California 94086  
(408) 736-0224